

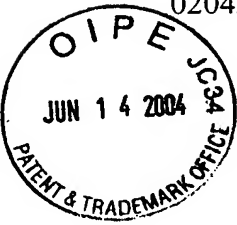
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3627

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PATENT  
10/032,971



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Rosa H. Birjandi, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/032,971  
Filing Date: October 25, 2001  
Art Unit: 3627  
Examiner: Andrew J. Rudy  
Confirmation No.: 8827  
Title: Optimized Deployment of Parts in a Distribution Network

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GROUP 3600

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
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*Willie Jiles*  
Willie Jiles

Dear Sir:

**Response to Office Action containing Restriction Requirement**

In response to the Office Action mailed May 14, 2004, Applicants elect Group II (Claims 11-20) for prosecution on the merits in the above-identified Application. This election is made to expedite issuance of a patent from this Application. Applicants do not necessarily agree with or acquiesce to the Examiner's conclusions reflected in the Office Action. Applicants have withdrawn Group I (Claims 1-10 and 32), Group III (Claims 21-30), and Group IV (Claim 31) without prejudice or disclaimer for prosecution in a divisional application if necessary. Applicants have also amended Claims 11-20 to clarify the nature of the recited computer-implemented system.